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SOURCE 1952 Jen-min Shou-ts'e, pp 353, 354.

USE OF NEW-TYPE AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS IN CHINA

Comment: This report summarizes a speech by the Director of the Department of Agricultural Implements of the Office of Agricultural Administration, Ministry of Agriculture, People's Republic of China, given 25 December 1951 at a conference held to discuss agricultural implements. The speech was published in the semi-monthly Chung-kuo Nung-pao (China Agriculture) of 10 March 1952, and republished in the 1952 Jen-min Shou-ts'e.

This report shows the efforts to promote the use of certain types of Soviet horse-drawn farming equipment throughout China. In some areas, stations have been established for this purpose. In the Northeast, 81 percent of the total or 4,800,000 farm families have been organized into 100,000 mutual aid teams and agricultural production cooperatives. This means that at least 100,000 of these Soviet-type farm equipment units will be needed in the Northeast alone. The Northeast Administrative Area plans to produce 170,000 units between 1953 to 1957.

The report gives data on the number of units produced in 1951, number repaired, factories able to produce units, etc.]

In the study of horse-drawn farming implements under the direction of the Northeast Administrative area, main emphasis has been laid upon plows, disk harrows, seeders, and soil packers.

In the Northwest and North China, new farming implements are being designed for use in nonirrigated land, level land, and mountainous land. Main emphasis has been laid upon plows, cultivators, and seeders.

The new farming implements to be used south of the Yangtze River in the paddy rice fields will be concentrated mainly in the East China area. New projects have been started in the designing of paddy field plows, cultivators, and rice threshers.

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Rural areas in the Northeast are at present in the process of expanding the use of horse-drawn agricultural equipment at experimental points. This is a matter worthy of note. The expanding use of this type of implement is the first step toward mechanization of agriculture in the Northeast.

These new horse-drawn implements are of the Soviet type. They consist of one and two bottom sulky plows, spike-tooth harrows, disk harrows, soil packers, grain seeders, harvesters, prime movers, and threshers. With these implements the area under cultivation can be expanded, plowing can be deeper, and cultivation more intensive. The crude methods of the past can be eliminated and productive capacity increased. With these implements, women, as well as men past their prime, can do as well in the fields as able-bodied men.

During the past 3 years, the Northeast authorities have loaned out over 600 sets of these implements, totaling 7,000 pieces. The chief users are provincial and hsien-operated state farms, well-established mutual aid teams, and agricultural production cooperatives. Stations have been established to promote the use of these implements. Such stations assume responsibility for technical advice and instructions. In 1951, there were only nine of these stations throughout the Northeast, but by 1952 they had increased to 48. In 1950, only 39 mutual aid teams used these implements; in 1951, the number reached 104.

The Department of Agriculture of the Northeast Administrative Area plans to distribute 170,000 sets of these implements from 1953 through 1957. It is planned that the total area of 137 million mou $\frac{1}{1}$ mou equals $\frac{1}{6}$ acre of level farm land will be supplied with such implements. Eventually even the 47 million mou of hilly land and paddy fields will be supplied with suitable machines.

At present 4,800,000 farm families -- 81 percent of the total in the Northeast -- have been organized in 100,000 year-round mutual aid teams and agricultural production cooperatives. If each organization used only one set of implements this would require 100,000 sets.

The promotion of new type agricultural implements requires an industrial base. The various branch farm implement factories belonging to the Central Northeast Agricultural Implement Factory are turning out these new type horse-drawn farming implements. In each province there are one or more provincially operated mechanized farm implement factories. There are also many operated by hsien governments. Many of these factories have heavy machinery, furnaces, and foundry equipment, enabling them to make repairs and to furnish spare parts for the new implements.

Many mutual aid teams have markedly increased their production by the use of the new type horse-drawn implements. For example, when the Liu Wen-pin Mutual Aid Team of Hsiao-ming-chia T'sun, in Chi-hsien Hsien, began using the horse-drawn implements in 1950, the team averaged 2,500 catties of wheat per hectare, 500 catties more per hectare than those teams using old type implements. In 1951, the team's production rose to 3,100 catties per hectare. On Liu Wen-pin's own 8 mou the production was 4,260 catties, or at the rate of over 5,000 catties per hectare which was twice his former production using old methods.

Statistics on the production, repair, and use of the new Soviet-type farm equipment follow:

<u>Items</u>	<u>Volume and Unit</u>
Farming implements repaired and supplemented	More than 12 million pieces in the country as a whole

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The total number of factories which are able to manufacture farming implements 170 units

Farm implement factories under public management 50 units

Ironworks under private ownership which are now beginning to produce farming implements 120 units

The number of farming implements of new Soviet type produced in 1951 include plows (20%), cultivators, mowing machines, corn shellers, rice threshers, cotton gins More than 30,000

New Soviet type farming implements sold in 1951 77,269 pieces

Areas (excluding Manchuria) in which new Soviet type farming implements were being used in 1951 480 hsien

Estimated number of farmers using new farming implements 100,000 families

Farming implement stations in the country 88 stations

Agricultural mutual aid teams using new Soviet type implements (in Manchuria only) 104 teams

The planned number of farming implements to be repaired and supplemented in 1952 30 million pieces

The planned number of farming implements to be manufactured in 1952 340,000 pieces

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Discussion